

## Claims:

1. A preventive and therapeutic agent for autoimmune demyelinating diseases containing an apoptosis-suppressing substance as its effective component.
2. A preventive and therapeutic agent according to claim 1 wherein said apoptosis-suppressing substance is a Fas antagonist.
3. A preventive and therapeutic agent according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said apoptosis-suppressing substance is a substance which suppresses Fas-Fas ligand binding.
4. A preventive and therapeutic agent according to ~~any~~ <sup>CLAIM 1</sup> ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ wherein said apoptosis-suppressing substance is a Fas derivative.
5. A preventive and therapeutic agent according to ~~any~~ <sup>CLAIM 1</sup> ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ wherein said apoptosis-suppressing substance is an anti-Fas ligand antibody.
6. A preventive and therapeutic agent according to ~~any~~ <sup>CLAIM 1</sup> ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ wherein said autoimmune demyelinating disease is a disease associated with demyelination in central nerve system.
7. A preventive and therapeutic agent according to ~~any~~ <sup>CLAIM 1</sup> ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein said autoimmune demyelinating disease is at least one member selected from acute disseminated encephalomyelitis and multiple sclerosis.

8. ~~A method for preventing and treating autoimmune demyelinating diseases wherein an apoptosis-suppressing substance is administered.~~

9. ~~Use of an apoptosis-suppressing substance in producing a pharmaceutical for preventing and/or treating autoimmune demyelinating diseases.~~